

SIDE EVENT

Building and supporting legal aid and legal representation of asylum-seekers, refugees, and stateless persons



The development of international standards for the protection of asylum-seekers, refugees, and stateless persons depends increasingly on national and international case law or jurisprudence.

In UNHCR's view, legal assistance and representation is an essential safeguard in asylum procedures as well as statelessness determination procedures.

This session aims at presenting UNHCR judicial engagement policy and offering concrete examples in the Americas Region, where opportunities have risen and where engagement with legal aid organizations and legal interventions have been successful. The session will give the opportunity to commonly reflect on how Non-Governmental legal aid organizations and UNHCR can better work together in the advancement of the rights of asylum-seekers, refugees and stateless persons.

Opening remarks on UNHCR's Judicial Engagement / Moderator: Cornelis (Kees) Wouters, Senior Refugee Law Advisor, DIP – Pillar I Law and Policy

Legal aid in the context of UNHCR RSD: Suzanne Duff, Head of RSD UNIT, DIP – Pillar I Law and Policy

Strategic litigation in Courts in the Americas: Juan Carlos Murillo, Senior Legal Officer, Regional Legal Unit, Costa Rica

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Room 3

